

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 08337 111259Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 8337

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, TU, US, COE, OEXC, OVIP

SUBJ: LECTURE TOUR IN US BY BULENT ECEVIT

REF: STATE 262034

1. I HAVE SPOKEN WITH FORMER PRIMIN BULENT ECEVIT CONCERNING REFTEL, AND HE HAS CONFIRMED TO ME THAT HE IS STILL LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING TO THE US AND THAT HE COULD MAKE THE TRIP IN JANUARY. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE COULD NOT BE IN THE STATES FORM MORE THAN A WEEK BECAUSE OF THE PRESSURES OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES HERE.

2. I EXPLAINED THAT THE INVITATIONS WOULD COME FROM THE INSTITUTIONS WHICH HE WOULD VISIT BUT THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO DO THE FINANCING. HE ASKED ME TO THANK THE THE SECRETARY FOR THE LATTER BUT SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT A PROBLEM AND THAT HE COULD HANDLE THE FINANCING HIMSELF.

3. AS EXAMPLES OF THE KIND OF SCHEDULING WE MIGHT WORK OUT, I MENTIONED SOME OF THE INSTITUTIONS IN PARA 4 REFTEL. THESE WERE FINE WITH HIM ALTHOUGH IT WAS AT THAT POINT WEHN HE SAID HE COULD NOT REPEAT NOT GET INVOLVED IN TOO EXTENSIVE A TRIP AND MENTIONED THE ONE WEEK LIMITATION. HE HAD NO ADDED SUGGESTIONS TO OFFER OTHER THAN IF AN APPEARANCE WAS PLANNED IN THE SOUTH, "NORTH CAROLINA IS MY HOME GROUND THERE." (AS A STATE DEPARTMENT-SPONSORED EXCHANGE JOURNALIST, HE WORKED ON A NEWSPAPER IN WINSTON-SALEM IN 1954, AND IN 1958, WHILE ON A ROCKEFELLER FELLOWSHIP, HE OBSERVED AT CLOSE RANGE AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE SENATE.

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HE HAS TOLD ME THAT SOME OF THE POLITICAL TACTICS HE HAS USED

SO SUCCESSFULLY HERE CAME OUT OF THAT LATTER EXPERIENCE.)

4. ECEVIT RECALLED THAT WHEN THE SECRETARY FIRST DISCUSSED THIS TRIP, HE MENTIONED THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD WANT TO SEE HIM DURING THE WASHINGTON PORTION OF IT. HE ASKED, "IS THAT STILL ON?" I SAID THAT THE MESSAGE I HAD DID NOT ADDRESS THAT, BUT I RECALLED THE SECRETARY HAVING MENTIONED THIS IN THEIR EARLIER CONVERSATION.

MACOMBER

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